THEODOR D STERLING AND ASSOCIATES LTD

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THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS IN MINIMIZING NON-SMOKERS EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

> Research Proposal Submitted to the CENTER FOR INDOOR AIR RESEARCH

> > Principle Investigator

C.W. Collett

Co-Investigators

M. Sterling J.A. Ross

September 30, 1992

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RESEARCH ABSTRACT

Title of Project:

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS IN MINIMIZING NONSMOKERS' EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE estigator(s):

Chris Collett, Elia Sterling, James Ross

Institution

and Control

Theodor D. Sterling and Associates, Vancouver, B.C., Canada

ABSTRACT: In the space below, please provide a descriptive summary of your proposed research project.

Field studies will be conducted in 16 buildings in Seattle, Chicago and Los Angeles to evaluate the effectiveness of designated smoking areas in minimizing nonsmokers' exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) in adjacent work areas. ETS exposure, ventilation performance and occupancy data will be gathered concurrently in the smoking and nonsmoking areas under two conditions: (i) smoking lounge separately ventilated; and (ii) no separate ventilation. ETS exposure data will include vapor-phase nicotine, respirable suspended particles, ETS-derived particles and carbon monoxide. Assessment of ventilation performance will include continuous CO₂ monitoring, quantification of supply and exhaust airflows and determination of pressurization, occupancy data will include number of occupants in the lounge and number of cigarettes smoked. In these buildings with separately ventilated smoking areas, those costs associated with the retrofit of additional ventilation will be determined.

Sept. 30, 1992

Signature, Principal Investigator

Date

APPLICATION FOR RESEARCH CONTRACT

(A) Chris Collett			ch(c)(604)681⊢2701/681
Name	TITLE		TELEPHONE #/ FAX #
(D)	(e) Theodor	D. Sterling and A	ssociates Ltd.
DEPARTMENT	INSTITUTION		
(B) 250 - 1122 Mainland Street	, Vancouver,	(c) B	.C. V6B 5Ll
Mailing Address		STATE	/Zip
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Institution	STREET ADDRESS		
(c) Vancouver		(b) B	.C. V6B 5L1
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11. OTHER SUPPORT

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* Append as much material as required. TYPE, single space, use 8-1/2" x 11" white paper and labell each sheet with name of the principal investigator in the upper right hand corner and page number at the bottom. Consecutively number each addendum beginning with page 5. Do not insert pages between pages 1 and 6, e.g., 2a, 2b, 3a, etc. Include nine copies and an original, if sending photographs, include 2 original sets. Note: Each of the nine copies must be placed in a binder per mailing

R: REDACTED MATERIAL

(a) Salaries, List personnel by name and title.	S	\$	\$
Indicate individuals % time to be spention this project	lst period	2nd period	3rd period
% Professional: 35 Chris Collett (Dir, Env. Res)			
15 Elia Sterling (President)			
R % Technical:			
35 James Ross (Associate)	REDACTED		
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% Other:			
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Fringe benefits payable at institution's rate of 5 category (a) Sub-Tota			
(b) Consultants (per diem, travel & expenses): Theodor Sterling: (\$1200 PD)	4,800		
Local Engineers (\$1000 honarar	3,000		
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Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles Category (d) Sub-Tota	13,500		
(e) Alterations and Renovations	13,300		
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(i) Suo-contacts	-		
Category (f) Sub-Tot			
(g) Equipment Sampling pumps, field calibrator, Balometer			
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14. a) Are HUMAN SUBJECTS to be used in this research?Y If yes, attach Institutional Review Board approval for procedures involving huma				
b) Are LABORATORY ANIMALS to be used in this research?Y If yes, attach Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee approval for procedure.				
15. SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: It is understood that the applicant in applying for a Contract has read and found acceptable the Statements of Policy and Terms Under Which Project Contracts Are Made appearing in the application package.				
CwCoUtt	September 30, 1992			
Signature of Principal Investigator	Date			

PRELIMINARY STUDIES: RESEARCH BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Regulation of smoking in the workplace has become commonplace in North America, dictated by either Government laws or corporate policies. A survey of U.S. corporations in 1991 found that 85% of surveyed firms had smoking policies in effect, compared to 54% in 1987 and 36% in 1986. (Bureau of National Affairs, 1991). The same survey also showed an increasing trend towards total prohibition of smoking in the workplace (40% of surveyed organizations in 1991, compared to 12% in 1987 and 6% in 1986).

Public opinion appears to apply pressure on employers and building operators to become increasingly restrictive with regards to smoking policies. Prevailing opinion in the future may be further fueled by attention given to the conclusions of the EPA Risk Assessment on the Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking, which classifies environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as a Group A carcinogen (EPA, 1992). The EPA report has undergone an extensive review process, and although it has evoked substantial controversy and criticism, the final document is expected in 1993. At that time, there may well be pressure for a "tightening" of current workplace smoking policies and call for total prohibition of smoking.

A reasonable alternative to the complete elimination of smoking from the workplace is the provision of designated smoking lounges. Policies which provide designated areas for smokers may well provide the most successful approach to workplace smoking regulation. In a survey conducted for Labour Canada by the project team responsible for the current research proposal, smoking policies which accommodated the needs of both smokers and non-smokers (such as the provision of designated areas) were found to be the most successful and least controversial in Canadian workplaces. Policies which prohibit smoking entirely were found to frequently create conflict and unrest within the employee populations (TDSA Ltd., 1987).

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Research is needed to objectively assess the effectiveness of designated smoking areas in shielding non-smokers exposure to ETS, in buildings where smoking lounges are (a) not separately ventilated from adjacent non-smoking areas; and (b) separate ventilation has been provided. The findings from such research will provide an objective baseline of data to guide decision-makers responsible for developing workplace smoking policies.

Research is lacking on the assessment of the effectiveness of smoking lounges. The project team has conducted research on non-smokers ETS exposure from recirculation of ETS from smoking lounges that were not separately ventilated (T.D.

Sterling and Mueller, 1988; T.D. Sterling and Collett, 1988). Other research on ETS-related constituent levels under different smoking conditions has been conducted by Hedge et al (1991) and Turner et al (1992).

In the project team's previous work, recirculation of ETS into non-smoking areas was evaluated by simultaneously monitoring nicotine, respirable suspended particle (RSP) and carbon monoxide (CO) concentrations in smoking lounges and non-smoking work areas under normal conditions of occupancy and ventilation system operation. Nicotine concentrations were found at levels marginally above analytical detection limits in the non-smoking areas, indicating that recirculation of ETS did occur, albeit at substantially diluted levels. However, the apparent recirculation of ETS did not lead to increased RSP or CO concentrations in non-smoking areas.

These findings were important because it was shown that the provision of designated smoking lounges, even when not separately ventilated, was effective in substantially reducing non-smokers exposure to ETS in the workplace. However, non-smokers exposure to ETS was not completely eliminated when smoking lounges were not separately ventilated. Given the controversial conclusions of the EPA risk assessment (i.e. ETS is a group A carcinogen), the presence of even minute amounts of ETS in the air of non-smoking areas may be considered to be a risk to health.

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Questions that arise from this original research are to what extent can ETS-related levels be further reduced by retrofitting additional ventilation to smoking lounges, and what are the costs associated with such retrofits? Advocates of total prohibition of smoking have argued that installation of additional ventilation will be prohibitively expensive to most corporate organizations and building owners (Smoking Policy Institute, 1987).

However, the provision of additional ventilation to smoking lounges can apparently be successfully achieved without major cost, particularly given recent changes in North American ventilation standards. The current ASHRAE Ventilation Standard 62-1989 prescribes recommended outside air ventilation rates for different space uses in buildings. For smoking lounges, a ventilation rate of 60 cubic feet per minute (CFM) per occupant is specified, based on an estimated maximum occupancy of 7 people per 100 square feet of net occupied space. However, Standard 62-1989 includes a comment that smoking lounges may be "normally supplied by transfer air" (i.e. air from other indoor areas within the same building). The transfer air provision means that smoking lounges in existing buildings may be brought into compliance with the current ASHRAE ventilation standard through inexpensive retrofits, such as the installation of

dedicated exhaust fans. A recently published guide titled "Developing a Smoking Lounge" estimated the additional costs for HVAC retrofits should fall in the range of \$150 to \$400 per person using the lounge, based on the maximum occupancies specified in Standard 62-1989 (RJR Inc, 1992).

The research described in the current proposal is designed to assess the effectiveness of workplace policies which provide designated areas for smokers. The research will examine designated smoking lounges that are, and are not, separately ventilated. In those buildings where separate ventilation has been provided, cost effectiveness for building owners and operators will be assessed. The findings will provide decision-makers with objective data, allowing consideration of smoking policy options other than total prohibition. Specific objectives of the research are to:

- i) Evaluate the effectiveness of designated smoking areas in eliminating non-smokers exposure to ETS under two field conditions: (a) smoking lounge not separately ventilated; and (b) smoking lounge separately ventilated.
- ii) In buildings where separate ventilation has been provided:
 - a) Determine the type of HVAC system modification that have been implemented in designated smoking areas.
 - b) Assess the cost impacts of the retrofit actions.

PRELIMINARY STUDIES: QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROJECT TEAM

As a research organization, Theodor D. Sterling and Associates (TDSA) Ltd. has extensive experience in indoor air quality (IAQ) research in non-industrial work environments, often with specific focus on ETS.

The project team will be composed of three members:

Chris Collett (Director, Environmental Research, TDSA Ltd.)

James Ross (Research Associate, TDSA Ltd.)

Elia Sterling (President, TDSA Ltd.)

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Education, research interests and other background of the project team are described in Appendix One.

Mechanical engineering consultants will be used in each of the three cities in which the field research is to be conducted.

Previous research experience of the project team with relevance to the current proposal includes:

- a) Field studies to characterize exposure to ETS by measuring specific indicators (nicotine, RSP, carbon monoxide) under varying conditions of building use and ventilation system operation. Research has been conducted in office buildings (T.D. Sterling and Mueller, 1988; T.D. Sterling and Collett, 1988; Collett and Ross, 1990) and other indoor environments such as bars and nightclubs (Collett et al, 1992). Chris Collett and James Ross have been primarily responsible for these field studies, and have undertaken IAQ investigations (both ETS and non-ETS related) in over 100 buildings worldwide.
- b) Development of IAQ, ventilation and thermal comfort standards which influence the control of ETS in indoor environments. Elia Sterling has participated in numerous working committees of International standard setting organizations, most notably as a member of the ASHRAE committee that developed the Ventilation Standard 62-1989 (E.M. Sterling, 1989).

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- c) Risk Assessment of the possible health effects associated with exposure to ETS. Dr. Theodor Sterling, who will act as consultant to the project team, has directed epidemiological research focusing primarily on critical assessment of studies that have attempted to associate specific health outcomes, such as lung cancer, with ETS exposure (T.D. Sterling and Weinkam, 1987; Arundel and T.D. Sterling, 1987). The project team also submitted critical reviews of the EPA Risk Assessment to the EPA appointed Science Advisory Board.
- Briefs providing information on ETS and non-ETS related d) IAQ issues to Regulatory Agencies in the U.S. and Canada. For example, all members of the project team contributed to an extensive submission to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration in response to a public request for information regarding IAQ in 1992 (including specific ETS concerns). TDSA Ltd. has also worked under contract for Canadian Federal Agencies such as Labour Canada and Health and Welfare Canada. The research for Labour Canada focussed specifically on ETS in the workplace and was intended to provide guidance on the development of smoking policies. The research for Health and Welfare Canada developed criteria documents for residential exposures to carbon dioxide and relative humidity.

EXPERIMENTAL PLAN

Research Design

Assessment of the effectiveness of designated smoking lounges in eliminating non-smokers exposure to ETS and examination of the cost impacts of providing additional ventilation will be conducted through a series of field investigations. Data will be gathered in a total of 16 buildings in 3 U.S. metropolitan areas; 6 buildings in Seattle, and 5 buildings in each of Los Angeles and Chicago. The study population will be equally divided into buildings where the designated smoking areas are, or are not, separately ventilated.

Specific buildings to be investigated will be identified and access gained with the assistance of mechanical engineering consultants in each city. Through on-going participation in professional associations including ASHRAE, the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), and the Intelligent Buildings Institute (IBI), the project team has developed a wide network of associates from which the mechanical consultants will be drawn.

Data Colletion

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In each of the 16 buildings participating in the study, the following information will be gathered:

- 1. ETS exposure data.
- 2. Physical ventilation data.
- Ventilation design and operational information (including cost data).
- 4. Occupancy parameters.

1. ETS Exposure

Integrated sampling techniques will be used to determine vapor-phase nicotine, total RSP, and ETS-derived RSP and CO concentrations as indicators of ETS. Samples will be collected concurrently in a designated smoking lounge and an adjacent non-smoking work area in each of the 16 buildings. The following sampling and analytical procedures will be employed:

Nicotine

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- * Sample collection on XAD4-resin at a flow rate of 1 litre/minute.
- * 4 hour sampling periods.
- * Analysis using a gas chromatograph equipped with nitrogen-phosphorous detector.
- * Analytical detection limit of 0.4 μg/m³.

Total RSP

- * Sample collection on Fluoropore filters preceded by a cyclone preclassifier (cut-off 3.5 μm) at a flow rate of 1.7 litres/minute.
- * 4 hour sampling periods
- * Gravimetric analysis using microbalance
- * Analytical detection limit of 2.5 μg/m³.

ETS-Derived RSP

- * Additional analysis of the gravimetric samples to estimate the proportion of ETS-derived RSP, using the "UV-PM" method developed by Conner et al (1990)
- * Particulates are extracted from the fluoropore filters with methanol.
- * Analysis with a columnless high performance liquid chromatograph with a UV detector.

Carbon Monoxide

- * Instantaneous determination using a direct reading electrochemical analyzer.
- * Data will be recorded every 30 minutes during each 4-hour sampling period in the smoking and non-smoking areas, and an average CO concentration per sampling period will be calculated.

Sampling will be conducted unobtrusively by housing all instrumentation inside customized briefcases. Given the four hour sampling periods, two sets of ETS exposure data will be collected during one working day (i.e. 9AM-1PM and 1PM-5PM) in the smoking lounge and adjacent non-smoking area

off each study building. Collected samples will be transported to Vancouver for analysis by AIHA certified laboratories. Pilot testing of the instrumentation and analytical techniques will be conducted in Vancouver prior to the field data collection.

2. Physical Ventilation Parameters

The performance of the ventilation systems in the study buildings will be evaluated indirectly by CO_2 measurement, directly through supply and exhaust airflow measurements, and the determination of pressurization relationships between the designated smoking lounges and immediately adjacent non-smoking areas.

CO₂ levels in the designated smoking lounges and adjacent non-smoking work areas will be continuously recorded for an eight-hour period corresponding to the sampling times for the indicators of ETS exposure. Data will be gathered using an integrated non-dispersive infra-red analyzer and datalogger. This instrument is also designed for unobtrusive sampling with the unit (similar in appearance to a large thermostat) attached to the wall or column within the study area. Using the datlogging software, trends in CO₂ throughout the sampling periods will be graphed and average and peak concentrations determined for each corresponding ETS exposure sampling period.

An electronic balometer will be used to quantify the volumes of supply and exhaust air in the designated smoking lounges. In separately ventilated lounges, differences between supply and exhaust volumes will permit assessment of the amount of transfer air entering a lounge. Ventilation conditions in the lounge will then be compared to ASHRAE Standard 62-1989.

Pressurization relationships will be qualitatively determined by smoke pencil testing, in which directional flows of air between the smoking lounges and adjacent non-smoking areas will be observed.

3. Design and Operational Characteristics

Information regarding the design of the ventilation systems serving the study areas will be obtained from the following sources:

- Review of mechanical plans
- * Walkthrough inspection

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* Interviews with building operators and mechanical designers.

Specific information to be gathered will include building ventilation system classification, physical configuration of designed smoking area, type of retrofit actions in those smoking lounges that are separately ventilated and estimated costs of the associated retrofits.

4. Occupancy Parameters

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During each ETS exposure sampling period, the number of occupants in the smoking lounge and the number of cigarettes smoked will be estimated through periodic observation and counting of finished cigarettes in ashtrays. Knowledge of the number of occupants will be required to compare ventilation conditions with ASHRAE Standard 62-1989, which prescribes ventilation rates per occupant of a space.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Field data gathered in each of the 16 buildings will be recorded on standardized data sheets. These data will be entered into a spreadsheet data management program. Analysis of the data will employ descriptive statistics.

In the final report to CIAR and in publications in the scientific literature, data will be primarily presented in tabular form, e.g. showing mean, ranges and standard deviations of nicotine, RSP and CO₂ concentrations in the smoking lounges and non-smoking areas of each building and groups of buildings, with specific differentiation between separately ventilated and non-separately ventilated smoking lounges.

TIME TABLE FOR THE INVESTIGATION

The project will be completed 9 months following the award of contract. The following schedule is based on a November 1st, 1992 starting date.

Nov 1, 1992 to Jan 31, 1993	* * *	Identification of study buildings Arrangements for access Preparation of equipment Pilot testing
Feb 1, 1993 to Apr 30, 1993	*	Field data collection
By April 30	*	Preliminary Report to CIAR
May 1, 1993 to July 31, 1993	* *	Data analysis and Interpretation Report Preparation

-- 2000 (1997)

By June 30

* Review Draft to CIAR

By July 31

Final Report to CIAR

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APPENDIX A: QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROJECT TEAM

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THEODOR D STERLING AND ASSOCIATES LTD

CHRISTOPHER W. COLLETT

Director of Environmental Research.

EDUCATION:

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EXPERIENCE

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Researcher, Theodor D. Sterling and Associates Ltd., Vancouver, B.C., 1982 to present.

Research Associate, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C., 1981-1982.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C., 1979-1982.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

REDAUTED

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TECHNICAL AREAS

Building Performance Assessment. Health Effects of Exposure to Indoor Pollutants. Database Development. Air Pollution Measurement Techniques.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Author and co-author of articles on indoor air quality, sick building syndrome, building performance evaluation, health effects of indoor pollution, workplace smoking regulation.

THEODOR D STERLING AND ASSOCIATES LTD

ELIA M. STERLING

President, Theodor D. Sterling and Associates Limited.

EDUCATION

REDACTED

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EXPERIENCE

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President of Theodor D. Sterling and Associates Ltd., 1989 to present. Director of Building Research, Theodor D. Sterling Ltd., Vancouver, B.C., 1981-1989.

Architectural Design and Research Associate, The Hulbert Group BC Limited, 1988 to present.

Architectural Programmer/Planner, Energy Conservation and Indoor Environment Specialist, Cornerstone Planning Group Limited, Vancouver, B.C., 1979-1981.

Staff Scientist (Architect), Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Energy and Environment Division, University of California at Berkeley (Consultant to U.S. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency).

TECHNICAL AREAS

Building Science and Technology. Energy Conservation and Management. Human Factors Engineering. Indoor Air Quality.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

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PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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Author and co-author of books, publications and presentations on architecture, building science and technology, energy conservation and management, environmental and occupational health, and indoor air quality.

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JAMES ROSS

Research Associate

EDUCATION

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EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, Theodor D. Sterling and Associates Ltd. Vancouver, B.C., 1988 to present.

Research Technologist, Saskatchewan Research Council, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, 1981-1988.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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TECHNICAL AREAS

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Building Performance Assessment; Indoor Air Quality Evaluation; Microbiological Evaluation; Air Pollution Measurement Techniques.

PUBLICATIONS

Author and co-author of articles on indoor air quality, building performance investigations, air quality measurement techniques and environmental tobacco smoke in offices.

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PROJECT TEAM PUBLICATIONS WITH RELEVANCE TO THE PROPOSED RESEARCH

- Measurement of CO₂ Concentrations to Estimate Outdoor Air Ventilation Rates. <u>Proceedings</u>, AWMA 85TH Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Kansas City, MO, June 21 - 26, 1992. (K.B. Levine, C.W. Collett, E.M. Sterling)
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 Epidemiology, 3(1):11-16, 1992.
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- 5. ETS in Offices and When Smoking Is Restricted to Designated But Not Separately Ventilated Areas. Pp. 120-129, H. Kasuga (Ed.), Indoor Air Quality, Springer-Verlag, Berling Heidelberg, 1990. (T.D. Sterling, B. Mueller)
- 6. Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke in the Non-Industrial Workplace Under Different Conditions of Ventilation and Smoking Regulation. pp.111-118 in <u>Present and Future of Indoor Air Quality</u>, C.J. Bieva, Y. Courtois, M. Bovaerts (eds), Excerpta Medica, Amsterdam, 1989.

 (T.D. Sterling, C.W. Collett, , J.A. Ross)
- 7. The Infiltration of Environmental Tobacco Smoke from Designated Smoking Areas to Smoking Prohibited Areas. pp.397-404 in Ventilation '88, J.H. Vincent (ed), Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1989. (T. Sterling, C.W. Collett)
- 8. The New ASHRAE Ventilation Standard: Economy of Improving Indoor Air Quality. <u>Energy Engineering</u>, 86(6):26-33, 1989. (E.M. Sterling)
- Is Smoking Regulation the Solution to Indoor Pollution Problems? <u>British Columbia Office and Industrial Leasing Guide</u>, Building Owners & Managers Association, September: 90-92, 1989. (E.M. Sterling, C.W. Collett)
- 10. Ventilation Inadequacies and the Sick Building Syndrome. pp.367371 in Ventilation '88, J.H. Vincent (ed), Pergamon Press,
 Oxford, 1989.
 (C.W. Collett, E.M. Sterling)

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- 12. Levels of Environmental Tobacco Smoke Under Different Conditions of Ventilation and Smoking Regulation. pp.223-235 in Combustion Processes and the Quality of the Indoor Environment, J.P. Harper (ed), Air & Waste Management Association, Niagara Falls, 1988. (T.D. Sterling, C.W. Collett, J.A. Ross)
- 13. Concentrations of Nicotine, RSP, CO and CO₂ in Nonsmoking Areas of Offices Ventilated by Air Recirculated from Smoking Designated Areas. American Industrial Hygiene Journal, 49(9):423-426, 1988. (T.D. Sterling, B. Mueller)
- 14. Typical Pollutant Concentrations in Public Buildings. pp.399-404 in <u>Indoor and Ambient Air Ouality</u>, R. Perry, P.W. Kirk (eds), Selper Ltd., London, 1988.
 (E.M. Sterling, C.W. Collett, S. Kleven, A.V. Arundel)
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke and Indoor Air Quality in Modern Office Work Environments. <u>Journal of Occupational Medicine</u>, 29(1):57-62, 1987.
 (T.D. Sterling, C.W. Collett, E.M. Sterling)
- 16. Errors in Estimates of Smoking-Related Deaths Derived from Nonsmoker Mortality. <u>Risk Analysis</u>, 7(4):463-475, 1987. (T.D. Sterling, J.J. Weinkam)
- 17. Never Smoker Lung Cancer Risks From Exposure to Particulate Tobacco Smoke. <u>Environmental International</u>, 13:409-426, 1987. (A. Arundel, T.D. Sterling, J.J. Weinkam)
- 18. The Impact of Building Ventilation on Indoor Gaseous and Particulate Pollutants in Office and Institutional Buildings. pp.297-308 in <u>Ventilation '85</u>, H.D. Goodfellow (ed), Pergamon Press, Toronto, 1986.

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 (T.D. Sterling, E.M. Sterling)